## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The Applicant appreciatively acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 9-11.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-8 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,542,604 to Blon et al. ("Blon").

The Examiner contends that Blon discloses a method for correcting for an echo signal component in a telecommunications device comprising the steps of sampling a transmitted signal across a sampling resistor, subtracting the sampled signal (through a subtractor) from a line signal to obtain a reconstructed received signal, sampling the transmitted signal across a first RC network echo compensation circuit to obtain a first echo compensation signal, where the first echo compensation signal and the reconstructed received signal are subtracted by providing them to a first circuit node. The Examiner contends that the first circuit node is pins HYB3 and HYB4 of Blon Figure 1.

The Applicant disagrees and submits that pins HYB3 and HYB4 are two separate circuit nodes which are the connection points of an off-chip RC-ladder that merely replicates the input impedance of a 15 kilo-ft AWG 26 cable, and is itself connected to other impedance replicating circuitry. (Blon, column 3, lines 54-58, and Figure 1.) Blon generates a replica echo signal by

connecting, through RT, the tip and ring signal lines (TTIP and TRING) to an impedance replica, which comprises replica circuitry that replicates the actual circuit path through loop L. The replica circuitry includes the off-chip RC-ladder. (Blon, column 3, lines 25-42.) The impedance replica generates a replica echo signal from the RTTIP and RTRING signal lines. "The replica echo signal is fed via lines RRTIP and RRRING to the subtractor AGC." (Blon, column 3, lines 62-67.) Within the subtractor AGC, the replica echo signal is subtracted from a sample of the received signal present on lines RTIP and RRING.

Applicant submits that Blon does not disclose the step of "subtracting the transmitted sample signal from a line signal to obtain a reconstructed received signal" as recited in amended claim 1. The Specification, at page 4, discloses that the transmit and receive signals operate on overlapping frequencies. A signal present on the telecommunication line comprises both signals. In order to obtain the received signal, the transmitted signal is subtracted from the line signal. In contrast, Blon does not disclose the transmitted and received signals operating at overlapping frequencies, and only discloses providing the received signal (lines RTIP and RRING) and a replica echo signal (lines RRTIP and RRRING) to separate inputs of a subtractor.

Additionally, amended claim 1 now recites "subtracting the first echo compensation signal from the reconstructed received signal to produce a first compensated received signal by combining the first echo compensation signal and the reconstructed received signal at a first circuit node." In contrast, Blon discloses feeding tip and ring received signals and tip and ring replica echo signals to separate inputs of a subtractor, where they are subtracted to provide the far end signal. (Blon, column 3, lines 62-67.) Providing these signals to different inputs of a subtractor is not the same as combining them at a first circuit node.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that Blon does not disclose each and every feature of claim 1. Therefore, Blon does not anticipate claim 1. Claims 2-4 and 12 depend from claim 1, and Applicant submits that claims 2-4 and 12 are patentable over Blon for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Amended claim 5 now recites a first circuit branch and a second circuit branch connected "such that a reconstructed received signal and an echo compensation signal are combined and coupled to the receiver input, thereby compensating for the echo signal in a telecommunication device." Applicant submits that amended claim 5 distinguishes over Blon for the reasons presented above for claim 1. Blon does not disclose each and every element of claim 5 and, thus, does not anticipate claim 5. Claims 6-8 depend from claim 5, and Applicant submits that claims 6-8 are patentable over Blon for at least the same reasons as claim 5.

Applicant requests withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection.

## CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated January 29, 2004 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: March 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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